

FTA news

FOOD TOBACCO AGRICULTURAL AND
ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA - CIO

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Cannery Workers In California Flocking To FTA

By Dolph Winebrenner, Cannery Drive Publicity Director

San Francisco, Calif.—Approximately 11,000 FTA-CIO pledge cards signed by Northern California cannery workers have been filed with the NLRB, General Pres. Donald Henderson announced on September 10.

At the same time, Henderson announced that committees of cannery workers from all areas in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys would meet within a week to map out an economic program for cannery workers and take preliminary steps toward setting up a CIO California Cannery Council. These committees were elected at a conference held in Stockton on Sept. 9, of 100 CIO cannery worker delegates from the Valley. Delegates to the con-

ference represented more than 30 large canneries in the Oroville-Marysville, Sacramento, Stockton and Modesto areas.

"The committees will also immediately start taking up grievances of the workers in the canneries," Henderson said. He charged that present contract provisions are being widely violated.

"FTA will map out an economic program demanding wage increases, shorter hours, time and a half after 8 hours a day and 40 hours a week, and improved seniority provisions," Henderson said. "The wage policy will be based on the CIO's general policy for a 20 per cent wage increase plus increases necessary to put cannery workers'

basic wages in line with those in other industries.

"The present AFL contract fails to provide time and a half overtime after 8 hours and fails to live up to CIO standards in many respects. In addition, in nearly 100 Northern California canneries the contract is being widely violated and there is virtually no attempt to enforce it, workers at the conference reported.

"Workers are being forced to work overtime without any overtime pay at all; rest periods provided by law are being ignored; piece work rates are being set individually by canneries and are being abolished in favor of straight time at sub-standard pay; women

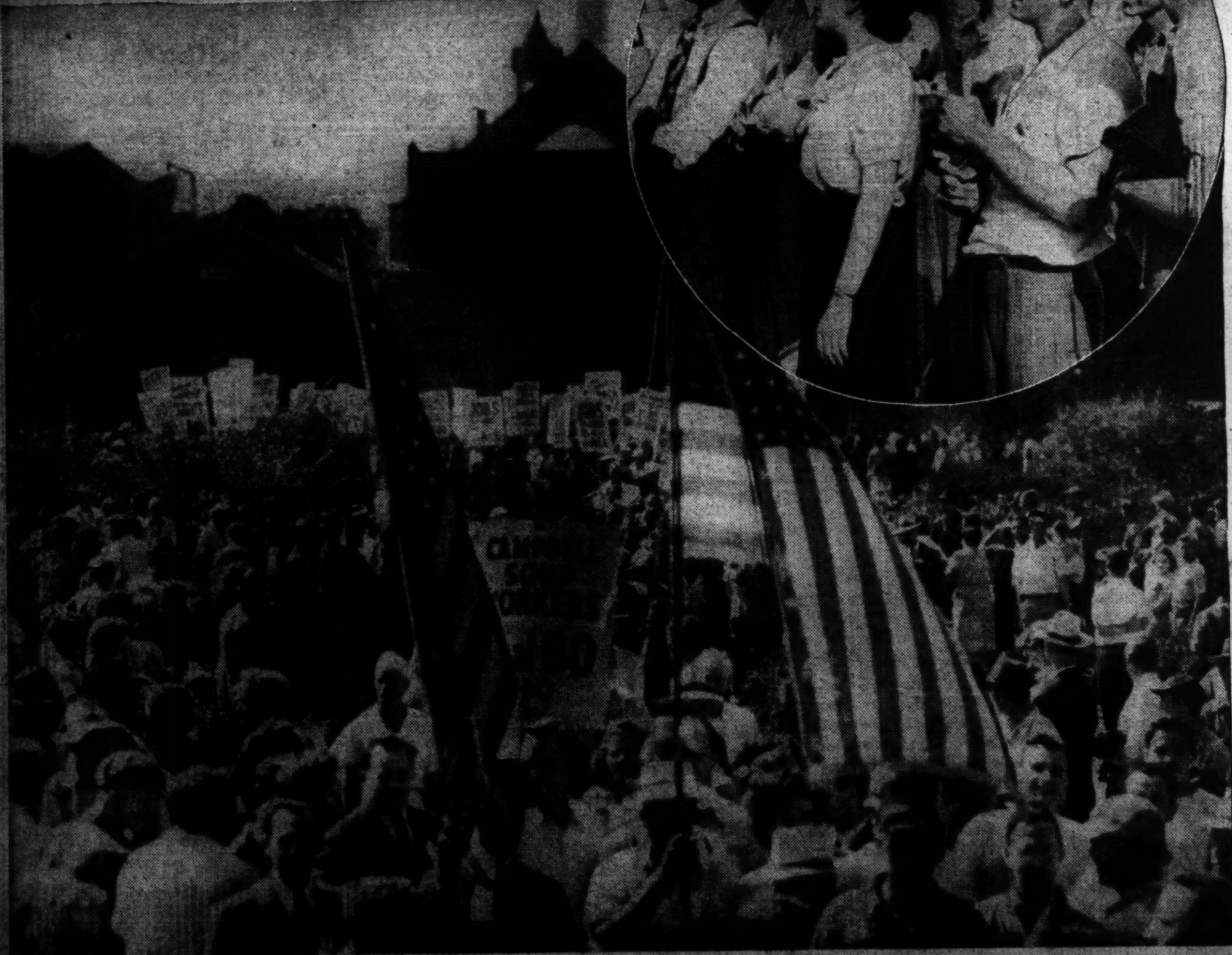
workers are being forced to go without pay when there are minor breakdowns in the plant; in some cases union dues are being collected twice in one month; and job descriptions are inadequate.

"The present situation has caused stoppage of production in the past and will continue to do so until corrected," Henderson concluded.

NLRB hearings are now taking place on FTA's petition for an industry-wide collective bargaining election among 60,000 Northern California cannery workers in more than 115 canneries. Should the NLRB grant the election, these workers will have the opportunity to choose their own union affiliation for the first time in their history.

"Jobs for Gobs, GI's and All," was one of the slogans of the giant CIO-AFL jobs rally in Camden, N. J., on July 29, which was attended

by 35,000 of the city's war workers. FTA Local 80 came out to the demonstration in full force. Part of the Local 80 group which added its voice to the demand for full employment is shown in the inset (left to right): Benjamin Butler, Chief Steward; Anthony Anastasia, Shop Steward; Herbert Kling, President; Jessica Rhine, Regional Rep.; Anthony Valentino, Business Agent; John Vederosa, Shop Steward; and Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director. With placards and band music, Camden workers jammed the City Hall plaza and surrounding streets, as they called upon the government to pass the needed legislation for swift reconversion and full employment. (See picture of New York's CIO jobs rally on page 4).



Truman Calls Upon Congress To Act Quickly

Washington, D. C. (FP)—Renewed demands for quick Congressional action on major reconversion legislation including unemployment compensation of \$25 for 26 weeks, the full employment bill, a permanent FEPC and a higher minimum wage standard were laid before Congress Sept. 6 by Pres. Harry S. Truman.

The President's message was a clear call for the legislators to get on the job to enact the full program. It left little comfort for the foes of the proposals.

Truman listed first among the things Congress can do to help reconversion the enactment of a fair emergency unemployment compensation bill, saying that "determined action NOW will create the atmosphere of confidence which is so vital to a rapid reconversion with a minimum of unemployment and hardship." He pointed out that 15 million workers are not covered by any unemployment compensation law, and that "there are many millions more for whom protection is inadequate."

Jobless Benefits Urgent

After criticizing the present state laws as too little and paying benefits for too short a period he recalled he had previously recommended the law and "I urgently renew my recommendation now, that the Congress take immediate action to make good these deficiencies."

As to wages, Truman declared that "in addition to those workers who will temporarily lose their jobs, there will be millions of others whose incomes will fall sharply with the end of war production. These will be added to the several million wage earners who even now have hourly earnings much below what is necessary for a decent standard of living."

The President explained that the inadequacy of these wages "has been temporarily concealed by wartime increases in take-home pay resulting from overtime work. As these props to income are removed, however, low-wage earners will be hard pressed to feed, clothe and house their families. This flies in the face of a sound public policy. Failure to correct this situation will slow down, if it will not actually stop, our drive toward an expanding market for business and agriculture."

Wipe Out Substandard Pay

The present 40c an hour minimum wage was called "inadequate when established. It has now become obsolete," and Truman added "I therefore recommend that the Congress amend the fair labor standards act by substantially increasing the minimum wage specified therein to a level which will eliminate substandards of living, and assure the maintenance of the health, efficiency and general well-being of workers." He also asked that the law be broadened to cover agricultural processing workers, now excluded.

Government Must Do Its Part

Truman renewed his call for a full employment bill, saying "government must do its part and assist industry and labor to get over the line from war to peace. That is why I have asked for unemployment compensation legislation. That is why I now ask for full employment legislation." He said our domestic economy's objectives were set out in Pres. Roosevelt's economic bill of rights which he quoted in full to the Congress.

Make FEPC Permanent

In another section, Truman said the FEPC "is continuing through the transition period. I have already requested that legislation be enacted placing the FEPC on a permanent basis. I repeat that recommendation."

With reconversion high in rank among the topics in the Presidential message, Truman emphasized the work of the U. S. Employment Service and asked that it be continued under federal control until June 30, 1947, with an increase of \$10 million in its appropriation for the current fiscal year.

On the question of housing, the chief executive said there "is wide agreement that over the next 10 years, there should be built in the U. S. an average of from a million to a million and a half homes a year." He reported such a program would give employment to "several million workers each year" and urged that the emphasis be put on private enterprise.

That's For Us!



Tell It To Congress

President Truman welcomed Congress back to work September 6 with an appeal to pass emergency measures necessary to prevent hunger and chaos and to speed reconversion. What will be Congress's answer? So far, the enemies of President Truman's and the CIO's program for reconversion are working overtime. They want to make phony "compromises" on such a vital measure as jobless aid, which must be extended in order to prevent extreme hardship. THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW!

Jobless Aid (\$ 1274; HR 3891)

Provides up to \$25 a week for 26 weeks for unemployed war workers, including food processing workers, federal government employees and merchant seamen, who were previously excluded from unemployment compensation. Important fight for the bills takes place on the floor of the Senate and House, where the Tories will try to knife the bills by "compromises."

ACTION: Wire Senators and Representatives to support the original, full provisions of the bills.

Full Employment Bill (\$ 380)

Places responsibility on the government to see that all have jobs, either through private enterprise, or with the help of the federal government. The decisive fight on this bill will also take place on the floor of Congress.

ACTION: Urge Senators and Representatives to support bill.

65c Minimum Wage (\$ 1349; HR 3914)

Amends the Wage and Hour Act to raise the legal minimum wage from 40c to 65c per hour. Bill is now in the Senate Labor Sub-committee; Sen. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) presiding.

ACTION: Urge Senators and Representatives to support bill.

Fair Employment Practices Committee (\$ 101; HR 2232)

Would make FEPC a permanent agency and prevent discrimination on jobs for reason of race, color, creed or national origin. Bill is now stalled in House Rules Committee.

ACTION: Urge Representatives to sign Discharge Petition 4, to get the bill out on the House floor, and to work and vote for the bill.

Equal Pay Bill (\$ 1178)

Requires that women get equal pay for equal work; no discrimination against women in layoffs. Bill is now in Senate Labor Committee; Sen. Murray (D., Mont.) presiding.

ACTION: Urge Senators to support this bill as vital to women who have to work.

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Enables 10 million white and Negro Americans to vote by outlawing the poll tax. The bill passed the House by a 2 to 1 vote, but is now tied up in Senate Judiciary Committee.

ACTION: Urge Senators to get bill out on floor, to vote for cloture to end the filibuster, and to pass the bill.

Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill (\$ 1171)

Would wipe out Wagner Act and other labor laws. The bill is now in the Senate Labor Committee and is being pushed for quick hearings.

ACTION: Tell Senators and Representatives to vote AGAINST this bill.

Address all Senators: Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Address all Representatives: House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

10c Blanket Raise Won At Gerbers

By Chapin K. Armstrong, Int. Org.

Fremont, Mich. — Under the new WLB policy of allowing wage increases where no price relief is requested, wages of all the workers at the Gerber Products Co. were boosted 10c an hour through the efforts of Local 30. The new hiring rate for women is 65c an hour, and for men, 72½c an hour, thus making the Gerber workers the highest paid food processing workers in Michigan, outside of metropolitan Detroit.

More Raises Coming

Further increases will be forthcoming as the result of WLB approval of a proposed job evaluation plan with an increase range of 10c an hour above present job rates. This also allows a 5c an hour automatic increase in pay at the completion of the probationary period after an employee is hired. These wage adjustments are retroactive to June 4. Highest job classifications now range from the minimum to as high as \$1.15 an hour.

Local 30 also received WLB approval on August 14 for 3-hour emergency call in pay, 5c an hour night shift differential, injury pay for the day when a worker is injured, and a one and two-week vacation plan for one and five-year employees.

FTA Signs First Charlotte Contract

By William DeBerry, Int. Rep.

Charlotte, N. C. — FTA's first contract with the Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. in Charlotte won wage increases ranging from 5 to 1c an hour and, retroactive to July 15 for the workers there.

Other gains won were time and a half for work over 40 hours, six holidays a year, call-in pay, automatic check-off, and a very good seniority clause and grievance procedure.

Members of the Negotiating Committee were William Rosboro, Chairman of the Unit; Clarence Hill and Carl Alexander. They were assisted by Regional Director Frank Green, Int. Org. Larry Larsen and Int. Rep. William DeBerry.

FTA won bargaining rights for the workers of the Buckeye Co. in June of this year.

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Profits Go Up Sharply In Wartime

Washington, D. C. — American workers increased their productivity 20% during the war, while profits soared, the War Production Board announced on Sept. 6.

These government-sponsored truths are contained in Part II of "The Effect of World War II on the American Industrial Economy." The document is part of a lengthy study prepared by WPB's general economics and planning bureau.

Although throughout the war period, wages of U. S. workers were frozen while the cost of living soared, the WPB document says flatly that "the wartime expansion in output led to a very pronounced improvement in the financial position of American industry. Profits rose about 350% before, and 120% after taxes, far exceeding the previous (1929) high."

Profits Doubled

In a section dealing with profits, the document says that "Although the rise in most cost elements exceeds the increase in prices of their products, the profits of industry (during the period 1940-44) increased sharply, both before and after taxes. This was made possible primarily by the economies of large-scale production, as reflected in the lower input of labor, materials and overhead charges per unit of output."

Despite war-induced increases in taxes on business, WPB found, "net profits after taxes increased from \$3 billion to \$6.4 billion, mostly during 1941 and 1942."

Local 194 Wins Major Demands at Campbells

By Paul Gardner, Business Agent

Chicago, Ill. — At a packed meeting of Local 194's Campbell Soup Division, the members voted to accept the proposed settlement of all pending dispute cases before the WLB and the Conciliation Service. The agreement guarantees that Local 194 will have a strong Union in the plant and will be equipped to see that it stays strong, according to

the new terms of the agreement.

The settlement came when the Union and the Company sat down

for the first time in three years and each laid out for discussion the points which each party considered important. The Union insisted that Union security was the prime issue, then wages and mobility of the Union in the plant. The Company wanted concessions on pay for Stewards, retroactivity and the right to bargain on the labor standards. The agreement was the result of each party making concessions on these points.

The Company and the Union will now write the new agreement and sign it for the first time in over two years of constant labor strife.

Hailing the agreement as a turn in labor-management relations at the Campbell Soup Co., Local President John Gallagher stated, "Local 194 will do all in its power to cooperate for the mutual benefit of both parties, but not at the expense of our Union membership or our Union rights. We are ready and willing to tackle the more important problems of reconversion, jobs, etc., and to this end we will do our part now as we did during the war."

Local Means Business

"The Company should know by this time that Local 194 means business. When we say we want to cooperate, that is what we mean. If we don't get that cooperation and we say we are then ready to fight, that is also what we mean. At present, we want to cooperate on new policies."

Chief gains won by the Union in the settlement were: 2c an hour general increase; 64c minimum for women and 75c for men after 8 weeks; reopening clause on wages; 100% premium on incentive instead of the former 75%; metropolitan area rates for can plant; maintenance of membership without escape clause; minimum wage and can plant increases retroactive to April 20; right to bargain and arbitrate discharges for inefficiency and discipline, shortened grievance procedure from 72 to 24 hours; a transfer policy to be negotiated; 4% of total earnings for vacation pay for first year; and other gains.

IF ALL 'FOREIGNERS' WENT BACK TO THE 'OLD COUNTRY'



Courtesy Appreciate America, Inc.

Win Again in Baltimore: Lord Mott Votes FTA

By Elsie Smith, International Organizer

Baltimore, Md. — Another round in the fight to bring the cannery workers of Baltimore into the ranks of organized labor was won on September 6 when FTA scored a victory in an NLRB election, by a vote of 196 for FTA to 94 for AFL, at the Lord Mott cannery, one of the largest on the Baltimore waterfront.

FTA's first Baltimore victory was in July at the Gibbs cannery.

The Organizing Committee headed by Marion Pack and Laura Harris, known to Lord Mott workers as "Union Maid," helped put FTA on the map in Baltimore by selling over 100 tickets to the CIO Labor Day Rally and Picnic at Carlin's Park. This affair marked a new high in Baltimore history. For the first time in Baltimore not a sign of Jim Crow was evident as white and Negro people turned out for the affair. Over 30 thousand attended and enjoyed a good time. Main speakers were Sec. of the Interior Harold Ickes and Canada Lee.

The rally was a real demonstration of CIO unity in Baltimore on the CIO program for jobs. Sec. Ickes' speech, which was broadcast on the radio, made note of the good beginning made by the

CIO in bringing democracy to Maryland.

The picnic, which took place right before the FTA election, added real spirit to the drive at Lord Mott's. The enthusiasm of the Lord Mott workers for the CIO program is shown by the fight they are leading against the use of Nazi Prisoners of War in the canneries while thousands of American workers are out of work. This is a deliberate attempt on the part of the Cannery Association to keep the wages of cannery workers below standard.

Active leaders in the plant are Shop Stewards McDaniels, Pack, Lucinda Clark, Mabel Phillips, Carrie Wilson, J. Morris, Lea Smith, Nellie Blow, Ida Evans, Maggie Towers, James Whitaker, and Payton. Int. Rep. Joseph Helinger and Int. Org. Elsie Smith led the organizing drive, and were assisted by the other CIO unions in Baltimore.

Back Pay Checks Average \$200 at Woolson Spice

By Dan Smith, Reporter

Toledo, Ohio — Local 297 members employed by the Woolson Spice Co. won a blanket wage increase of 5c an hour, retroactive to January 1, 1944, through a voluntary agreement. Each employee will receive a back pay check averaging \$200 or more.

The wage increase brings the present minimum pay rates up to 80c an hour for men and 65c for women. Many of the women work on piece rates, thereby making more than the minimum hourly wage rate.

Members of the Negotiating Committee were: Norton Ackerman, Sarah Shoemaker, Roy Chambers, Judy Osterman, and Darell Fisher. They were assisted by Regional Directors Jack Montgomery and Armando Valdes.





School Days: Leaders from 10 locals in the Mississippi Delta region met together at the FTA Mid-South School during the week of August 20 at the Local 19 hall in Memphis, Tenn. for concentrated work on union problems.

How to build a strong, active group of Shop Stewards and committee members in each local, discussion of good contract provisions, and how to organize effective PAC, were among the subjects under discussion.

On Monday and Tuesday evenings the delegates visited house to house in the register-to-vote drive which was the major PAC job that week in Memphis. At the Memphis Industrial Union council meeting Wednesday night, Lee Lashley, speaking for the school delegates, was able to report contacts with 260 people, of whom 121 had registered, 109 promised to register and 30 were taken to the registration booth.

Connie Anderson, FTA Education Director, and Brownie Lee Jones, Director of the Southern School, led the discussions. CIO Sub-Regional Director W. A. Copeland discussed wage issues, and Int. Vice-Pres. Mack Dyson and Regional Director Frank Hargrove advised throughout the school.

Delegates were George Crawford, Jessie Harrison, Peter Hamilton, Alf Jones, Lee N. Lashley, George Patterson, George Swinger, Will Adams and Ed Hawthorne of Local 19; Charles Hubbard, 195; Alberta Johnson, 63; Jerry Mayo, 283; Ewing Nunn, 150; L. L. Sanders, 189; Willie Slater, 232; Thomas Steward, 180; Roy Williams, 98; and John Wyatt, 182.

George Patterson was school chaplain; Mrs. Will Adams served cold drinks at recess time; Mrs. Bartlett, Local 19 Office Secretary, assisted; and Mamie Jackson visited a number of sessions.

Local 19 Plants Win New Gains

By Frank Hargrove, Regional Dir.

Memphis, Tenn.—A 5c per hour general increase was won by Local 19 through a WLB directive order for the workers at the Gulf Atlantic Warehouse compress. While the Company is appealing to the National WLB, Local 19 members are confident that the winning of this case will set the pattern for wage rates in the Memphis cotton compresses.

Improved vacations and a 5c per hour general wage increase, plus other contract improvements, was awarded by the WLB to Quaker Oats employees. Lee Lashley headed the Negotiating Committee and was assisted by Regional Director Frank Hargrove.

A 2½c per hour general increase established a 55c minimum wage at Happy Mills. E. T. Hawthorne is Chairman of this unit of Local 19.

Raises at Canale

The National WLB denied the appeal of D. Canale & Co., thereby upholding the Regional WLB directive order for substantial increases and improved vacations.

One tough nut that Local 19 has to crack is the Caradine-Karsch Co. Although the National WLB upheld the Regional WLB's order for wage increases, the Company ignored the directive and also refused to bargain for a new contract. They even went so far as to refuse to continue the old contract until a new one is negotiated. However, the workers and Local 19 have plans, and they predict a full victory in the end.

On August 24, Local 19 won an NLRB election at the Dixie-Portland Flour Co. by a vote of 16 for the Union and 5 against. Int. Vice-Pres. John Mack Dyson and Local Organizer Jessie Harrison did a fine organizing job.

Make Big Gains In 1st Contract

Philadelphia, Pa.—A 10c an hour blanket wage increase, retroactive to June 1, was just one of the important gains made in Local 186's first contract with the recently organized Western Stevedoring Co. This brings the minimum wage up



to 85c an hour. To further increase wages an incentive bonus plan is to be worked out. Time and a

half will be paid for work in excess of 40 hours and double time for work on Sundays and holidays. A wage reopening clause was also included in the contract. Workers called in on emergency and breakdown jobs will be paid for 5½ hours at time and a half. Those who report to work when there is no work will be paid 4 hours call-in pay.

The contract calls for a Union shop with preferential hiring through the Union. Workers hired outside the Union will be given 2 weeks in which to join.

Other gains in the contract are: checkoff of dues; 6 paid holidays; paid vacations of 3 days for employees of 6 months, 1 week for 1

year, 2 weeks for 5 years, and 2 weeks for weathers; plantwide seniority; grievance procedure; improved safety and health conditions; a no-discrimination clause; no strikes or lockouts; the Company is to furnish equipment and special clothing where required.

Members of the Negotiating Committee were: Chief Shop Steward William Gibbs, Elton Marshall, A. J. Weimer, Clement Rende, Frank Siegfried, James Scott, George Spor, Watson Sparks, Daniel Jackson and William H. Woerner. They were assisted by Reg. Dir. Lewis Bentley, Reg. Rep. Jessica Rhine and Bus. Agt. George Ardelean.

Good relations between the Company and the Union and the solidarity among the Negro and white workers in the plant were the chief factors in bringing about such a good contract.

The contract covers 243 employees of the Company which bags and ships grain.



"Mama—I just been made Production Manager."

FTA Gains Headway At U.S. Tobacco

Nashville, Tenn.—FTA is going forward in Nashville, having signed up a majority of the workers at the U. S. Tobacco Company's snuff plant here, according to Regional Director Frank Hargrove. Int. Org. Mary Lou Koger is in charge of the campaign involving some 200 workers. The Company has said that they would meet with FTA representatives for the purpose of negotiating a contract.

One other plant in Nashville, the Ralston Purina Co., is already under contract to FTA.

Win \$35,000 Back Pay At Central Soya Co.

By Joseph E. Oelberg, Reporter

Decatur, Ind.—Some \$35,000 in retroactive pay was won by Local 44 for the employees of the Central Soya Co. as the result of War Labor Board approval of a voluntary agreement granting a 5c hourly increase retroactive to July, 1944.

Local 44 won its petition for the wage increase through the WLB after 14 months of battling with the National and Regional War Labor Board.

A vote of thanks is due Int. Org. Kenneth Hirschy for keeping the petition alive after it was turned down by the Regional WLB. FTA Washington Representative Elizabeth Sasuly also gave invaluable help in the case.

Local 44's new contract with the Company was signed Sept. 5, granting 5c an hour night shift bonuses, a stepped-up vacation plan, double time for holidays, and a blanket 5c increase on all hourly rates.

When the war was declared over, the Company paid employees their full pay for the two-day holiday.

\$22,000 in Raises Won by Local 45

By Max Sussman, Business Agent

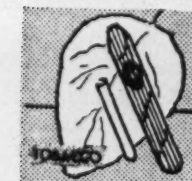
Richmond, Va.—Local 45 wound up recent negotiations at the Larus & Bros. Stemmy with a 7½c an hour wage increase, retroactive to March 28, for all the workers, establishing a 55c minimum wage. The total wage increase amounts to some \$22,000.

Recent negotiations with the Export Leaf unit of Local 45 awarded a total of \$7,000 in wage increases to the workers.

WLB Stops Consolidated Anti-Union Activities

By Miriam Cliff, Reporter

Lancaster, Pa.—The consolidated Cigar Company's open union-busting tactics were finally slapped down by a Regional WLB order granting an interim contract with Local 638 until disputes are decided by the Board. The WLB



also directed the Company to reinstate employees in the Union who had been encouraged by the Company without notifying the Union, and to collect all current and delinquent dues.

Back in June, after negotiations had reached a deadlock, the Company refused to extend the old contract pending settlement of disputes by the WLB. Following this, the Company posted a notice in the plant terminating the contract and encouraging the workers to withdraw from the check-off list.

Immediately the Union took the matter up with the WLB, exposing the Company's tactics and telling

how Company foremen and stooges went about encouraging the workers to withdraw from the Union. The result was a Board order on August 4 covering the interim contract, and a further order on August 28, ordering reinstatement in the Union of workers who had withdrawn.

During those trying few months, Local 638 continued to build the Union. As a result of its organizing drive the Local was able to sign up a number of former war workers who came back to the cigar industry following V-J Day.

Andrew Dotterman was elected by Local 638 to attend the rally for a Permanent FEPC held in Washington, September 12 and 13.



They Demand the Right to Work:

Veterans, sitting on the speakers' platform, overlook the crowd of 60,000 workers who rallied in New York City to demand jobs for all at decent pay. Addressing the CIO demonstration, Rep. Emmanuel Celler (D., N.Y.) wished he could bring it to Washington "and show some of those people down there just how mighty the voice of labor can be." CIO demonstrations like this one continue to take place all over the country in every major industrial city. In Camden, N.J., more than 35,000 workers participated; in Baltimore, 20,000 workers; in Detroit, 30,000 workers; in San Francisco, 30,000. All demanded passage of the federal jobs bill, the full Employment bill, and other legislation vital to orderly reconversion. (FP)

SHOP TALK

Correct program, plus decisive action, equals a strong Union. This is how some of the locals have solved their problems.

Stopped Jim Crow Hiring At Campbell Soup Plant

By Thomas Smith, Shop Steward, Legislative Director, Local 194

At the beginning of the war, the Campbell Soup plant in Chicago refused to hire Negro women. In about a year they received approximately 1000 applications for employment from Negro women, but every applicant was told: go home, we will call you soon. At the same time, the Company ran advertisements in a Polish paper, calling for women workers.

When I asked the Personnel Manager about it, he said, "Yes, Tom, I have a time set to hire colored women," but he later said it was against Company policy to hire them. I reported this to Local 194, and we agreed that Negro women, whose husbands, sons and sweethearts are fighting

to save democracy, have the right to work in a plant that makes the food for the armed forces.

Through the Chicago CIO Council, we informed FTA President Donald Henderson and CIO President Philip Murray about the situation, and they sent telegrams to the Chicago plant officials. Our International Representative likewise spoke to officials by phone.

Local 194 entered the case as a grievance against the Company, and we finally broke down the discriminatory policy. Within 15 days, Campbells had more than 400 Negro women working in the plant. Today the Company has approximately 1500 Negro women on its payroll.

Stewards Went into Action Result: 100% Union Shop

By Edward Mear, President, Local 17

With the checkoff in full swing at California Packing, and with our Local 17 Stewards in action in all departments, we are doing a very good job of closing the gap between Union and non-union members.

Our big victory came a couple of months ago, when we won time-and-a-half pay after 10 hours in any one day during the packing season, retroactive to March 1 of this year. About 1000 workers, who put in 12 to 20 hours per day, benefitted from this victory.

We also got our vacation time increased from 40 to 48 hours for

one week, and from 80 to 96 hours for two weeks. In addition, we received back pay from March 1 on job classifications for a big majority of the workers.

A half hour after the news of the victory reached the plant, every Shop Steward went into action and signed up every worker in the plant.

We have one of the best groups of trained Stewards in FTA, we believe. Our grievances are taken care of in very good shape, and whenever the Stewards are asked to do a job, they are always in there fighting.

Put on Membership Drive To Win a Closed Shop

By Norman Tribbett, Shop Steward, Local 80

In order to win a closed shop at the Camden Campbell Soup plant, Local 80 put on a membership drive in July. We distributed a leaflet at the plant gates telling the workers that if they join the Union now, the initiation fee would be the regular \$2. After October 1, the Local voted to raise

the initiation fee to \$25 for all those who have more than one year's seniority.

The first day of the drive, we secured 185 new members. On the second day we signed up 166 more. We made this progress through the cooperation of all our Local officers and Shop Stewards.

Talking About Pork Chops At Union Meetings

From "The Worker's Voice," Local 22 newspaper

"Now why should a Union member want to talk about Pork Chops at a Union meeting? Sure, it's true I like to eat 'em, but I don't wanta take time in a meeting to talk about it."

"Well, Tom, pork chops are a part of union business, because the union's job is to help raise our wages—our standard of living."

"Sure, if you mean talking about wages—that's our business, all right."

"Well, it's like this—we have a minimum wage law called the Fair Labor Standards Act—it makes 40c an hour the minimum wage. There is a bill before Congress now which, if passed, would raise the minimum wage to 65c an hour. We must help get that bill passed."

"You're right, Bill. Now, I'm beginning to like this pork chop business. I heard that there was a bill calling for full employment in Congress, too. What about that one?"

"That bill places the responsi-

bility for full employment—jobs for all who want to work—on the government."

"Seems to me that's where it belongs, too."

"Well, according to the bill, the President is to make a report to Congress each year estimating the number of people who want to work and the number of jobs available in private industry. If there are not enough jobs, then Congress is to plan federal improvements that will give the needed jobs."

"Simple, isn't it, when you start thinking about it? So what do I and the rest of the members do about it?"

"Your job is to be familiar with these bills that will help the country, and then write to your Congressmen telling them what you think and asking them to support the bills you are in favor of."

"It's up to you—whether you work for 'pork chops' now or have the veterans selling apples later. Take your choice."

Most People of the South Have Stopped Listening to this

Southern Fairy Tale

By Reuel Stanfield, President, Local 15

Charleston, S.C.—The aged Mr. Ball, editor of the reactionary "News & Courier", took the "landless and poor whites" on his knee last week and told them a fairy tale. The fairy tale-editorial, titled "CIO in Cotton Mills" in the August 25 issue of his paper was supposed to blast the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Boiled down to one line, it said: the whites in the South had better watch out or the Negroes will take their jobs!

"Divide and conquer," Hitler said. It seems that certain men in the South learned the lesson well.

Workers Grown Up

Will these men be as effective as Hitler and Goebbels were? We doubt it. We doubt it, because we know that the workers in the South have grown up. They don't believe these fairy tales any longer.

Mr. Ball says, "Jobs for white workers would decrease in ratio to the jobs given colored people." The workers know that this is

bunk, because the workers know that unless there are jobs for all, Negro and white alike, there can be security for none.

Mr. Ball says, "The textile executives do not wish this condition to arise . . . Their shareholders are white people." The workers know that the Northern industrialists, who are really their bosses, never distinguished between Negroes and whites. They have always tried to get as much work for as little pay as they could; the worker's color made no difference.

Had to Fight

Mr. Ball says, "Textile executives . . . have been staunch friends of their operatives and have helped them in every way that they could."

But we remember the organizing struggles in Marion, Gastonia and Danville. Every worker knows that raises and better working conditions are things they have to fight and die for, every single time!

If Mr. Ball would talk with some of Charleston's merchants, he'd find that the war has taught most

of the Southern businessmen a lesson. They know that as long as the South keeps a reservoir of cheap labor in its 8 million Negroes, it will never be truly prosperous.

The South's businessmen have been prosperous these past years. Why? Because millions of dollars have been earned by Southern working men and women to be spent with Southern merchants.

Prosperity Depends on All

The South's businessmen want to remain prosperous, and they know how. They know that their prosperity depends upon the prosperity of all of the South's laborers. When the businessman on King Street figures up his monthly profits, his dollars aren't black and white . . . they're dollars. That's why most of Charleston's businessmen know that they must protect the Negro's wages as well as the white's.

Most of the people of the South have stopped listening to fairy tales, Mr. Ball. They have begun listening to facts, because facts pay dividends; fairy tales don't!



Who Is Going to be Bullwhipped Now?

Washington, D.C.—Congressman Harold Knutson (R., Minn.) doesn't believe in unemployment compensation for laid off workers.

It reminds him, he told the House Ways and Means Committee on Sept. 4, of the time when the government provided alfalfa for the starving herds of elk in the Jackson Hole country in the winter of 1926-27. The elk fed all winter, said Knutson, "and when spring came it was necessary to use bull whips to drive them back to the range."

You're not thinking of driving workers with bull whips, are you, Mr. Congressman?

Protest Employment of Nazi Prisoners of War

Philadelphia, Pa.—The continued use of war prisoner labor in food and tobacco plants has aroused FTA members to action. In several areas, FTA has charged employers with holding on to prisoners despite the fact that the War Department and the War Manpower Commission have urged that prisoners of war no longer be employed, now that unemployed war workers are available for jobs.

In Baltimore, Int. Rep. Joseph Hellinger charged the Gibbs cannery with attempting to keep 111 German prisoners at work as long as possible in order to force laid-off war workers to accept work at low cannery wages. The charge was confirmed by the management's own statements in the press.

State WMC director Fenneman announced that the canners had been notified on Aug. 18 to remove prisoners as soon as possible. "We consider it our responsibility to the unemployed," he said, "to remove any competition by prison labor."

Seasonal Workers Jobless

Reports from regular seasonal workers that they have not yet been able to get jobs caused Local 22 to check up on the use of war prisoners in the tobacco industry in Winston-Salem.

"The Union does not object to

war prisoners being used, as long as they don't take anybody else's job or become a tool for cutting wages," FTA Regional Director Frank Green said. "But the War Department has promised that these Nazis will be taken away just as soon as it is shown that there are native workers who can do the job, and we are certainly going to see that this is lived up to."

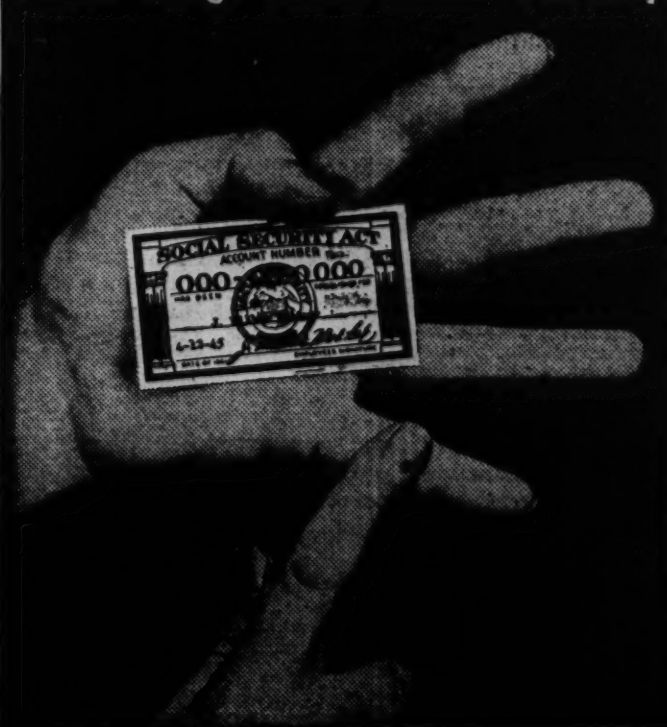
Employers Want POW's

From New York State, Int. Org. Edward Delahoyde reports that "with the advent of V-J Day, it now appears that certain employers are now busily engaged in using their influence to keep the POW's in this country until the first of the year, instead of complying with instructions issued by Under Secretary of War Patterson for them to replace prisoners with native labor."

"Without any further quibbling, the War Department should see that all prisoner of war camps are closed and their occupants shipped out of this country to their own countries."

Some 64,000 war prisoners are now working in food processing and other plants where critical labor shortages existed, according to War Manpower Commission figures.

Tell your family These things about Social Security



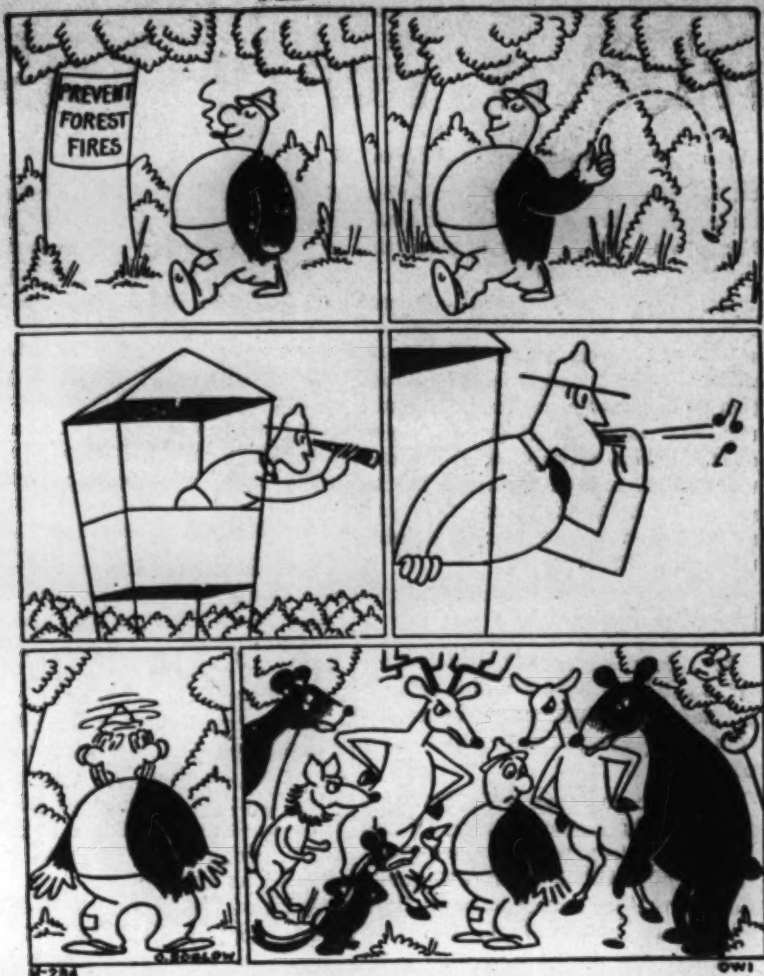
That you have a Social Security account and that this may mean monthly insurance benefits for your wife and children if you should die. Or for your elderly parents if you are supporting them.

Where you keep your
2 SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT CARD.

Tell them also to
3 Get in touch with the nearest Social Security Board Office in case of your death, and...

File their claims
4 PROMPTLY so that they may not lose any of their payments.

Federal Security Agency
SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD



50% Raises Are Okay, If Prices Stay Put

Washington, D. C.—Wage increases up to 40 or 50% will be permitted by the government soon, Economic Stabilization Director William H. Davis announced on Sept. 4. Such increases will be granted by the War Labor Board, except when they would affect the price of the product.

The government's postwar economic policy should raise the present standard of living by 50% in

the next five years without affecting the price level, Davis said.

Davis told a news conference that he did not believe it was necessary to add wage rises to the final cost of the product. It was his conviction that such increased costs could be absorbed by other production factors.

The general price level must be maintained, said Davis, if the government is to pay off its public debt of some \$275 billions.

U.S. Survey Shows Need For 60-80c Minimum

Washington, D. C.—A minimum wage of 60 to 80c per hour is necessary to provide an adequate standard of living, says a survey soon to be published by the U. S. Department of Labor.

During the war, the survey shows, low income families suffered the most from the rising cost of living. If a change in the cost of living should occur now, moreover, it is more likely to increase, rather than decrease.

The survey reveals that 20% of

the country's workers in manufacturing industries receive less than 65c an hour. Industries below the average include tobacco, lumber and timber, textiles, apparel, furniture, leather, paper, food, stone, clay and glass, electrical equipment and printing and publishing.

The strength of union organization, says the Labor Dept. survey, is one of the basic protections against a wave of wage-cutting now.

FTA Testifies In Support Of Jobless Aid Bill

Washington, D. C.—Urging speedy passage of the emergency unemployment compensation bill before the House Ways and Means Committee on Sept. 7, Int. Rep. Jessica Rhine demanded the coverage of agricultural processing

Shed Cases Will Go To Government

Washington, D. C.—Packingshed workers, and others who were removed from the jurisdiction of the War Labor Board by the Lea Rider, will have their wage cases handled in the future by the Labor and Agriculture Department. Both voluntary wage agreements and dispute cases will be handled by these departments, Economic Stabilizer William H. Davis announced Sept. 4.

Conciliation First

The Labor Department's Conciliation Service will continue to handle disputes. If settlement cannot be reached through Conciliation, cases previously referred to the WLB will be considered by a panel or investigator appointed by the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture.

The WLB lost jurisdiction over at least 550,000 workers employed in fresh fruit and vegetable packingsheds and in cotton ginning as a result of passage of the Lea Rider this summer. This prevented use of WLB funds in connection with disputes involving these so-called agricultural workers.

Raises Up to 55c Don't Need WLB OK

Washington, D. C.—War Labor Board approval for wage increases up to 55c an hour are no longer necessary, even if the increases cause price rises.

Until Sept. 4, increases between 50 and 55c could not be made without WLB approval if they would affect prices or government costs.

workers by the bill just as they are covered in the Senate version.

Speaking in behalf of Pres. Donald Henderson who could not appear, Int. Rep. Rhine explained that FTA supports the House bill, HR 3736, because, in order to guarantee a market for the goods which food and tobacco workers produce, the purchasing power of all workers must be maintained.

However, she pointed out, food processing workers and agricultural workers, too, are in extreme need of such unemployment compensation.

Int. Rep. Rhine also urged inclusion in HR 3736 of provisions for travel allowance for unemployed war workers moving to other localities, such as are provided in the Senate bill on unemployment compensation.

The great need of agricultural workers for unemployment compensation is aggravated, she impressed upon Committee members, by the fact that they are excluded from social security benefits. They have done every bit as fine a job in war production as other war workers, she said, pointing to their 100% no-strike record as well as their production of essential foodstuffs for the armed forces.

May Be Jobless

While full employment in agriculture depends on full employment in the basic industries, reconversion in agriculture due to the end of the war, the end of lend-lease and the change in food demands also threatens agricultural workers with unemployment, the Committee was told.

Agricultural workers are very ill-prepared for an emergency such as they now face. During 1942-43, in the best-paid area of the packing-shed industry, California-Arizona, workers' annual earnings were not more than \$1,500. This amount leaves no margin of savings on which these workers can draw during periods of unemployment.

In testimony on the Senate version of the bill, Int. Rep. Rhine requested that migratory workers be given the benefits of transportation allowances by the Government. She also requested that provisions of the unemployment compensation bill be made retroactive to August 14, the day the war ended and workers began to be laid off by the millions.

Full Employment Bill

In an earlier statement to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee and the House Expenditures in the Executive Dept. Committee, Pres. Henderson expressed FTA's support of Full Employment bills S. 380 and HR 2202.

While food and tobacco workers do not face immediate layoffs following the end of the war as do workers in other industries, Henderson pointed out that mass unemployment in other industries will have its effect on FTA workers, too. He therefore urged Congress to support S. 380 and HR 2202 as "one step in planning for a future in which every man has a right to a job at good wages."

The full employment bill, while not alone guaranteeing full employment, Henderson said, would establish Government responsibility for the welfare of the nation and would be one step forward in providing all Americans with "useful, remunerative, regular and full-time employment."

Notes LOCALS

Vacation Plan

7-2 Seattle, Wash. — Improvements in the vacation plan were negotiated by Local 7-2 with the National Fruit Canning Co. and the Bergoust-Wilson Co., retroactive to March 1. One week's vacation was awarded for one year's service and two weeks for five years. A year's service is 1600 hours worked at either straight time or overtime. Formerly 1800 hours of straight time work in any 12 consecutive months was the basis for a week's vacation.

The night shift differential was raised from 2½c between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. to 4c after 6 p.m.

Local 7-2 sent a wire to U. S. Senator Warren G. Magnuson urging him to support the Kilgore Unemployment Compensation Bill.

By Florence Palmer, Reporter

PAC a "Must"

55 Middletown, Ohio—The first membership meeting of Local 55 since the election of E. P. Murphy as Business Agent was a success. All the officers and Shop Stewards pledged to back up the Local's new program 100%. By cooperating with Brother Murphy we hope to correct our mistakes of the past. One of the "musts" in our program is to get to work on political action.

Local 55's picnic on Aug. 25 was a very happy occasion. We celebrated the ending of the war, and many of our servicemen were there to join the fun. Several hundred members attended. There was games, and free lunch for all.

By Jennie Stiver, Reporter

Membership Drive

57 Richmond, Va.—The membership drive at the Southern Biscuit Co. resulted in the enrollment of 126 new members in a period of 3 months. First prize winner, Charlie Brent, won \$15 for enrolling 45 members. Annabelle Bradley won the second prize of \$10 for enrolling 27 members, and Jack Coffey won the third prize of \$5 for enrolling 21 members.

Following this successful consolidation drive, Local 57 held its first picnic on Labor Day. There was plenty of food, prizes, bingo, and hard, and soft drinks. The success of the picnic was helped a great deal by the Company's contribution of \$100.

By Max Sussman, Bus. Agt.

New Officers

273 New York, N.Y. — Newly elected officers of Local 273 are: Regino Leon, Pres.; Roger Garcia, Vice-Pres.; Rafael Garcia, Secy.-Treas.; Elsie Huba, Rec. Secy.; and Severino Martinez, Business Agent.

March in Parade

CWOC Redlands, Calif. — The Citrus Workers Organizing Committee was represented in the giant CIO Labor Day parade in Los Angeles. Hundreds of automobiles decorated with colored banners and huge CIO slogans followed horseback riders carrying the U. S. and State flags. CIO sound trucks furnished the music.

CWOC members take their hats off to Dorothy Healey, Chairman of the Parade Committee, for having such a good turn out on short notice.

Regular weekly meetings at the CWOC hall have been lots more comfortable since the cooling system was installed.

A pot luck supper was served at the last meeting and we hope to have more sociable gatherings like it in the future.

CWOC members were sorry to hear of the illness of one of our active members, Anna Hawkins. We hope to have her back with us soon.

By Hazel Davidson, Reporter

FTA Council

From time to time this list of area councils will appear in the News for the information of the local unions.

Northeastern Council

New York State, Northern Jersey (including Trenton), New England
Armando Ramirez, Regional Director
977 Intervale Avenue, Bronx 59, New York

Middle Atlantic Council

South Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland
Lewis C. Bentzley, Regional Director
Room 414, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Tri-State Council

North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia
Frank Green, Regional Director
247½ N. Main Street, Winston Salem, N. C.

Southern Council

Florida, Alabama and Georgia
John G. Lackner, Regional Director
Room 9, 30 E. Church St., Orlando, Fla.

Michigan-Ohio Council

Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Northern Kentucky
Armando Valdes, Regional Director
1000 Walnut Street, Cleveland, Ohio

Indiana-Illinois Council

Indiana, Illinois
Jack Montgomery, Regional Director
John Sloan, Acting Regional Director
UAW-CIO Bldg., Room 200, 8th and Main Sts., Evansville, Ind.

Wisconsin-Minnesota Council

Wisconsin and Minnesota
Harry Virgil, Regional Director
108 Wells Street, Milwaukee 3, Wis.

Mississippi Valley Council

Mississippi, Western Tennessee, Arkansas, Southern Kentucky
Frank Hargrove, Regional Director
66 S. Third Street, Memphis, Tennessee
Harry Koger, Sub-Regional Director
119 Glover Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa Council

Nebraska, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado
Louis Jedlicka, Regional Director
419½ Second Ave., S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Texas-Louisiana Council

Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma
No Regional Director assigned
600 South 17th Street, McAllen, Tex.

California-Arizona Council

California and Arizona
Luisa Moreno, Regional Director
Room 301, 150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 2, Calif.

Northwestern Council

Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska
Conrad Espe, Regional Director
221 Second Avenue, Seattle 14, Wash.

Will they try union-busting again?

After World War I, the union-haters succeeded in smashing labor's gains. Will they get away with it this time?

By Philip Foner

THE news on November 11, 1918, was joyful indeed. The long war had come to an end. The sorrow and the horror were over, and people believed they could now begin to enjoy peace and prosperity.

Labor in America faced the future with optimism and hope. Its ranks had increased markedly during the war. By 1920 the membership of the American Federation of Labor was twice as great as in 1916; its total enrolled membership, for the first time in its history, was over four million.

Hitherto, due to wartime restrictions, labor had been unable to reap the benefits of this remarkable growth. Indeed, the war had sky-rocketed the cost of living, and reduced living standards for workers by causing a decrease in real wages.

Profits vs. Wages

This moreover, was in sharp contrast to the gains achieved by industrialists during the same period. In 1914 there were 7,509 millionaires in America; in 1917 the number had jumped to 19,103!

Whenever the workers had sought to share in the enormous profits during the war, they had been told to wait until the war was over. "This is not the time for settling complex social questions," said Otto H. Kahn, outstanding finance capitalist, during the war. "When your house is being invaded by burglars, you do not discuss family questions. Let us win the war first."

Samuel Gompers and other top leaders of the American Federation of Labor had echoed this statement, often assuring workers that when the war was over, the capitalists would grant labor its share in the victory by an extension of industrial democracy.

Disillusionment followed close on the heels of the armistice. In-

Philip Foner, author of this article, is an instructor at the Jefferson School of Social Science in New York. His series of articles on American labor history was printed in FTA News at the beginning of this year.

stead of calm, enlightened discussion of its problems and a share in the victory, labor was treated to the notorious red-hunt of 1918-1928. Attorney-General Palmer instituted the drive as he rounded up militant workers, accused them of being agents of the Bolsheviks, and, with no justification, shipped them off to Russia. During this shameful period, five regularly elected Socialist assemblymen were denied their seats in the New York legislature, and during the height of the red-scare, Sacco and Vanzetti were railroaded to their death for a crime they had never committed.

Out To Smash Labor

The red-scare was only part of a vast pattern established by employers and the government to defeat the natural demands of labor and ultimately to wipe out the entire labor movement.

As prices went up labor demanded higher wages. These demands were bluntly refused by the same capitalists who had grown unbelievably rich during the war. And when labor replied with the great strike wave in 1919, these same capitalists resorted to every evil device to break the strikes. Strike-breakers were imported; racial hatred among strikers was stirred up; the government—local, state

and national—was called in to use its authority to smash the strike.

Open Shop Campaign

The defeat of the strikes in 1918, the election to the Presidency in 1920 of Warren G. Harding, the reactionary spokesman of big business, and the post-war economic crisis which got actively under way by the middle of 1920, set the stage for an all-out offensive against the trade-union movement.

In 1921, the National Association of Manufacturers, cooperating with other management organizations including the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, the Metal Trades Association, and the National Founders Association, launched its campaign for "the open shop."

Trade unionism, went the propaganda of these powerful employers' associations, was synonymous with "anti-Americanism." In opposition to the trade unions, these reactionary organizations offered the "American Plan," a subterfuge for the anti-union shop. Ernest G. Draper, President of the American Creosoting Company, and a leader of the open shop movement, stated the aims of the employers' associations: "They are out to crack organized labor and crack it wide open. They will do it carefully, secretly, perhaps, with the aid of a convenient slogan. But they will do it if they can."

The meaning of this remark became quickly evident. Thousands of union members were dismissed; in fact, several leading plants shut down completely just to get rid of workers who belonged to trade unions. Active trade unionists were not only dismissed but blacklisted throughout the country. Company unions were organized in every industry. Employers declining to join in the anti-union



drive were refused credit and raw material.

Labor Lost Gains

Meanwhile, the government was not inactive. It bestowed its blessing upon the anti-labor campaign, and through unfavorable court decisions gave it concrete assistance.

As the anti-labor offensive grew in intensity, the unions in the basic industries were either destroyed or reduced to skeleton organizations. By 1923 the wartime gains of labor had been, for the most part, obliterated. The losses in membership of the American Federation of Labor were startling: 84,000 in 1921, 883,000 in 1922. And 1,052,000 in 1923. From its peak of over 4 million in 1920, Federation membership declined to less than 3 million in 1923.

Had the top leaders of the American Federation of Labor truly been concerned with the interests of the workers, this disaster might have been averted. Having assured the workers during the war that the victory would instantly bring with it a solution of all of their problems, these leaders were caught completely unprepared by the vicious assault upon labor that followed the armistice.

Not only did they have no program of their own to meet labor's post-war problems, but they denounced the Chicago Federation of Labor, when it called for abolition of unemployment through public works programs; for public ownership of railroads, public util-

ities, steamships, stockyards, grain elevators and telephone and telegraph, and for independent political action of the workers and farmers.

Actually, Gompers and his colleagues were more concerned with combatting militant trade unionism than they were in checking and defeating the open shop drive. Since many of the trade unionists in the basic industries were among the followers, the top leaders of the Federation were not unhappy when they saw them driven out of the trade union movement and blacklisted.

How About Today?

The open shop drive after World War I brought a tragic end to a most promising period for the American labor movement. In our country we are confronted with a danger that this story may be repeated after World War II. Reactionary employer's associations are bent upon repeating their campaign to smash the labor movement.

This time, however, they face an alert and progressive labor movement whose influence can be decisive. Millions of Americans look to labor as the backbone of a great democratic coalition to realize a people's victory and a peace that means "democracy—and more democracy," jobs and security for all Americans. This time let us make sure that labor will not only not decline in strength but grow stronger than ever before in our history.

THE Story of Labor

DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, THE MERCHANTS AND THE BIG LANDOWNERS WERE DIVIDED... AS MANY WANTED TO REMAIN UNDER ENGLISH RULE AS TO BREAK AWAY. BUT THIS WAS NOT THE CASE WITH THE WORKERS AND MECHANICS. THEY BACKED THE REVOLUTION 100%. THEY DEMANDED CERTAIN INALIENABLE RIGHTS... THE RIGHTS OF LIFE, LIBERTY, AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. TO GAIN THESE RIGHTS THEY FOUGHT AND DIED. WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER THEY KEPT ON FIGHTING... THIS TIME FOR BETTER PAY, SHORTER HOURS, DECENT WORKING CONDITIONS, AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE... WITHOUT OWNING A LOT OF PROPERTY OR PAYING A POLL TAX...

JOE WORKER

A MEETING ROOM INSIDE A TAVERN, 1775...

FELLOW MECHANICS OF NEW YORK! SONS OF LIBERTY! BRITISH SOLDIERS KILLED AMERICANS AT LEXINGTON! WHO'S FOR FIGHTING!



I'M WITH YOU!

THESE GREASY FELLOWS WILL DRAG US INTO TROUBLE!

SO PULL WE DOWN ALL TYRANNY!



WE KNOW NO BETTERS! GET OUT OF OUR WAY!

FORBEAR THIS WOLLENCE. LET YOUR BETTERS HANDLE THIS!

VALLEY FORGE....

YOU'RE BRAVE SOLDIERS! WHAT ARE YOUR NAMES?

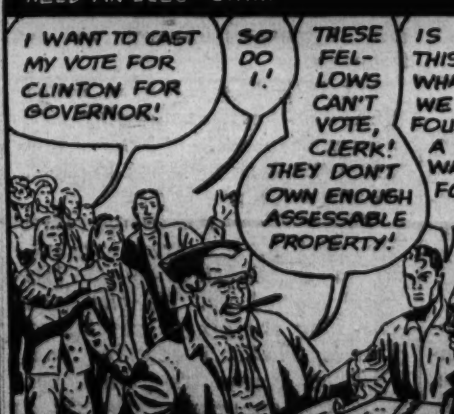


PATRICK SULLIVAN SIR! I USED TO BE A TAILOR!

WE COULD USE SOME OF PAT'S CLOTHES NOW, SIR! I'M HYMAN LEVY, PRINTER

AND I'M JOE WORKER PLAIN LABORER!

WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER NEW YORK HELD AN ELECTION...



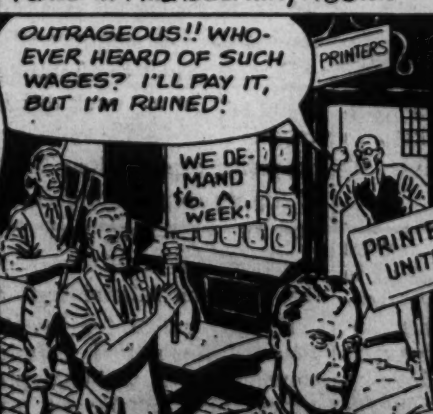
I WANT TO CAST MY VOTE FOR CLINTON FOR GOVERNOR!

SO DO I!

THESE FELLOWS CAN'T VOTE, CLERK! THEY DON'T OWN ENOUGH ASSESSABLE PROPERTY!

IS THIS WHAT WE FOUGHT A WAR FOR?

THE FIRST STRIKE IN AMERICA TOOK PLACE IN PHILADELPHIA, 1786....



OUTRAGEOUS!! WHO-EVER HEARD OF SUCH WAGES? I'LL PAY IT, BUT I'M RUINED!

WE DEMAND TO A WEEK!

PRINTERS UNITE

BUT THE SECOND STRIKE OF CARPENTERS IN 1791 WAS LOST...



YOU'LL STARVE FIRST! YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO A BUNCH OF FOREIGN AGITATORS!

SHORTER HOURS 12 HRS. A DAY IS ENOUGH

A LIVING WAGE \$1. A DAY

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

What are the Locals Doing for Vets?

"You just gotta get there first," Union Soldier says

By Cpl. William Haber, International Representative on Leave

HERE is a letter the NEWS received, in which every member of FTA will be interested. Written before the Japanese surrender, this letter, calling upon FTA Locals to set up Servicemen's and Veterans' Committees, is even more timely now, when veterans are returning to civilian life in ever increasing numbers.

Mindanao, P. I.

August 9, 1945

Dear Fellow Unionists:

We're coming home! And it will be sooner than we expected.

War has been a rough and tumble school. These homecoming graduates of war are a pretty right bunch of guys, and you're going to find them solid citizens. Years of military regimentation have made the word "Independence" a star of hope in the soldier vocabulary. Now Soldier Joe is coming home to put on his "Freedom Suit."

Freedom is a hard won thing. He has been dreaming about it in the foxholes, sweating it out in the face of terrors, swallowing his anger when he has been shoved around — because he has been thinking all this time . . . "wait

till I get home!"

Are you going to be there to give him a proper welcome?

After the excitement of coming home will have passed, when the struggle to pay the grocer begins once more—are you going to be ready to offer him a Union home?

How? Brother, that's your job! And the best approach, for my money, is the formation of a Servicemen's and Veterans' Committee in each of our Locals. An active group in every community will help to make him your friend and ally in that coming struggle for jobs, security and a decent world to live in.

The shysters, the political pimps and the money bags will all be there waiting for him with a thousand bags of tricks; and you—you just gotta get there first!

You've Got A Job

Our Union has the program to protect the veteran on his job. His seniority, which accumulated while he was in the service, is guaranteed by our contracts. He will be entitled to all of the gains we have made while he was fighting in the foxholes.

But you have another job, too. Yours will be the job of cleaning up the old race prejudices that he has carried over from the past.

Yours the job of explaining to him the evil purposes behind the vomitous writings of the Westbrook Peglers and the distorted news in the big business-controlled press.

He's been away a long time. You'll have to help him catch up on what has been happening while he's been away; and to gain his support for passing those laws that will make and keep our nation a true democracy. Yours is the job of identifying for him the un-American politicians and their sly gangs, so that he will be able to use his vote in the same manner in which he used his carbine.

Join Together

Soldier Joe is not a problem child looking for a special class status. He's a healthy Yank looking hard for a chance to live a good and fruitful life.

On the home front you men and women have fought the bitter fight to safeguard our hard-won rights. You, too, have swallowed your anger and stuck to your guns in the face of covert, provocative acts by the "win the war and lose the peace" gang back home.

Now is your big opportunity to build a joint peoples' army to fight for and to safeguard the better world of tomorrow. Don't miff it!



EDWARD BYKOWSKI

Wounded Vet Asks Bilbo: Was our Fight in Vain?

From CIO News

One person who is doing something about Mississippi Senator Bilbo's vicious attacks on minorities is Edward Bykowski, a veteran wounded in the Pacific.

Still limping from his wound, Bykowski last week picketed the Senate Office Building in protest against Bilbo's "Dear Dago" and "Dear Kike" letters until the veteran was ushered out of the Capitol area by Capitol police.

After being ordered out of the Capitol grounds, Bykowski went out to picket Bilbo's apartment.

Pickets Bilbo

Bykowski, a former Navy pharmacist's mate with the Purple Heart, is a tall, pleasant looking American of Polish descent. For more than an hour he picketed Bilbo's office with a large sign with a bleeding purple heart painted on it and saying, "Was this in vain? Tell it to me, Bilbo—I fought for democracy!"

He wants Bilbo to retract his "dago" and "kike" letters.

"Bilbo," Bykowski said, "claims Negroes, Jews, Italians, Poles, in fact, anyone but Bilbo is undesirable. He has abrogated everything that veterans have died for, suffered the agonies of hell for.

Knew What It Meant

"People ask me why I'm doing this. I'll tell you why. When I was aboard the Vincennes working in the hospital, I knew what it meant for all of us to stick together—Negro, Jew and Catholic. I've had men die in my arms and I wasn't happy to see them go.

"A little Negro boy we called Sunshine kept on passing the ammunition with his right arm after the Japs blew off his left. That's a Negro for you.

"Then there was Danny Boy. He died in my arms, saying, 'Keep on fighting, boys.' His hand opened up. He had been clutching the six point Star of David. That's a Jew for you.

"When I saw the things that Bilbo was doing after the things I'd seen, I swore that I would do my best to fight him because

I felt he was destroying the very things we had fought for.

"In the hospital, I kept thinking about Bilbo. I'm using my mustering out pay for this and it's worth every penny of it."

Bykowski, whose own nickname is "Bigski," received compound fractures in four places in his left leg in the sinking of the Vincennes. He was released from the Naval Hospital in July with a 60 percent disability.

Bilbo "Too Busy"

A member of Bilbo's staff assured Bykowski that the Senator would see him when he returned from Mississippi.

On his return to Washington later in the week, Senator Bilbo stated that he was "too busy gathering facts on the anti-poll tax, anti-lynch and FEPC situations" to discuss matters with the picketing veteran.

Bykowski Appeals To Truman on Bilbo

Washington, D. C.—Edward Bykowski continued his fight against Senator Bilbo in an appeal written to President Truman on Sept. 5. Telling the President about the nasty things that Polltaxer Bilbo says about the Catholics, Negroes, Italians, Jews and Poles, Bykowski wrote:

"As I read with tears in my eyes what you said in the papers the other day that 'the bigotries of race and class and creed will not be permitted to warp the souls of men,' I knew that we both felt the same way about these matters.

"And so, my dear Mr. President, I humbly ask for a chance to talk with you for a few minutes about how we can best keep faith with your buddies and my buddies who gave their blood, their limbs and their lives for a free and just America.

"I can come any time, any day or night that you can spare a few minutes. I have gotten hundreds of letters and telegrams from buddies all over the country who feel as we do and I would like to show some of these to you."

Legion Insists on Super-seniority

Washington, D. C.—In an obvious effort to draw support from the nation's 13 million veterans, the American Legion will insist that super-seniority be applied as a formula in deciding job preference between a World War II serviceman and a war worker.

Formed and controlled by conservative business leaders who served in the first World War, the American Legion has had a long history of union-baiting and has frequently opposed all liberal legislation.

Under the super-seniority proposal, which is backed by Selective Service officials as well, a World War II veteran could claim his old job or one like it, even if it would bump a World War I veteran to get it.

The Legion's plan was submitted to the Senate Banking and Currency Committee during hearings on the Murray-Wagner Full Employment Bill.

Uppercrust Hates Vets, Says Union

Detroit, Mich. — When Sgt. James Hendrix, Jr., winner of the Congressional Medal as a war hero, was given the bum's rush together with his family by the Willard Hotel ("Residence of Presidents") in Washington, that wasn't "the first kick in the pants veterans of World War II have received from the upper crust in America," comments The Eye Opener, publication of Murray Local 2, UAW-CIO.

"They fought and won medals to overthrow the upper crust overseas, only to find themselves spat upon by the same kind of ritzy scum over here. This should emphasize the advice given by the CIO to veterans—that their real friends are not among the employers and the rich but right among their own kind of people in the unions."



Baruch Urges Jobs Plan To Solve Vets Problems

Washington, D. C.—There is no preparation for "human demobilization," Bernard M. Baruch told Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, in a letter Sept. 5. Baruch, who has advised Presidents on the mobilization of resources in World War

I and II, urged quick action in creating a program to solve the problems of returning servicemen and discharged war workers.

"Solution of the veterans' problems does not — cannot — proceed alone," Baruch said. "During the period when our soldiers and sailors will be shedding their uniforms, 6 to 8 million workers in strictly war industries will be shifting jobs or homes.

"The ultimate goal of any veterans' program must be to restore the returning soldier and sailor to the community — socially, economically and humanly. This cannot be accomplished except as part of the large program embracing the whole of human demobilization.

"One terrible danger of failure

may be to set the veteran off from the rest of the nation, cherishing the grievance of having been wronged, at odds with his fellow-Americans, his feelings an explosive fuel ready to be ignited by some future demagogues."

Baruch urged the immediate appointment of a "work director" to handle the national jobs problem; suggested over-hauling the GI Bill of Rights to provide greater benefits to veterans; and improvement of the health provisions of the Veterans Administration.

He also called for the development of a "unified, detailed employment and training program, anticipating as far as practical, the needs of both veterans and displaced war workers."